GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5669
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2003
DRUG COATED STENTS
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether drug-coated stents are considered by doctors to be much more effective in preventing re-blockages in arteries after angioplasty;

(b) if so, whether drug coated stents are being manufactured in India;

(c) if so, the names of companies manufacturing drug-coated stents in the country;

(d) the present price of each drug-coated stent;

(e) whether the Government have taken any measures to ensure that the price of drug-coated stents is reduced or subsidised by the Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d) The drug-coated Angioplasty Stents are the most effective tool to permanently remove artery blockages. Unlike the uncoated stents used commonly during angioplasty, the drug-coated stents which have recently come up lead to much lesser incidence of recurrence of re-blockage after angioplasty. According to AIIMS, Indian Companies namely(i) Sahajannd Medical Technologies Pvt. Ltd. (ii) Care Ploymed Ltd. have started manufacturing drug-costed stents recently, however, they are still under evaluation. The drug-coated stents vary in cost from Rs. 81000/- to Rs. 1,37,500/-.

(e) & (f) No Sir, since drug coated angioplasty stents have just become available in the market and are experimental as long term results are not available.